

Attorney Docket No.: J3509(C)
Serial No.: 09/764,734
Filed: January 17, 2001
Confirmation No.: 6621

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1: (Currently Amended) An anti-microbial composition comprising a carrier material and a salt of a transition metal chelator comprising a solution in an organic solvent of a transition metal chelator anion and an organic cation, wherein the cation comprises a protonated or quaternised amine, other than triisopropanolamine, containing 0 to 3 hydroxyl groups per N-substituent and at least one N-substituent comprising a C₁-C₁₀ terminal hydrocarbyl group, wherein the antimicrobial composition is in the form of a deodorant product for use on the outer surface of the human body ~~or on apparel worn in close proximity thereto~~, wherein less than 50% by weight of water is present in the composition, excluding any volatile propellant that may be present.

Claims 2-3: (Cancelled).

Claim 4: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the cation of the chelator salt is a protonated amine.

Claim 5: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 4, wherein the cation of the chelator salt is protonated 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol, cyclohexylamine, diisopropanolamine, or 2-aminobutan-1-ol.

Claim 6: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the organic cation is present at a level sufficient to neutralise at least 60% of any acid groups on the acid form of the chelator anion.

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Claim 7: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the organic cation is present at a level sufficient to lead to an aqueous solution of the chelator salt having a pH of between 6 and 8 (at a molar concentration of chelator salt equal to that present in the composition).

Claim 8: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the anion of the transition metal chelator salt has affinity for iron (III).

Claim 9: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 8, wherein the anion of the transition metal chelator salt has a binding coefficient for iron (III) of greater than 10^{26} .

Claim 10: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the transition metal chelator salt is a polyaminocarboxylic acid salt.

Claim 11: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the anion of the transition metal chelator salt has an acid form comprising at least five acid groups.

Claim 12: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 10, wherein the transition metal chelator salt is a diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid salt.

Claim 13: (Cancelled)

Claim 14: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio of other liquid components to water is greater than 65:35 by weight.

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Claim 15: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the chelator salt is present at a concentration of 0.01% to 10% by weight, excluding any volatile propellant present.

Claim 16: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, which is in the form of an aerosol comprising a volatile propellant.

Claim 17: (Original) An anti-microbial aerosol composition according to claim 16, comprising an organic solvent of c.logP less than 2 and a non-chlorinated volatile propellant, said composition being a homogeneous pressurised solution.

Claim 18: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, comprising an additional anti-microbial agent.

Claim 19: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 18, wherein the additional anti-microbial agent is a cationic bactericide.

Claim 20: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 19, wherein the additional anti-microbial agent is an organic cationic bactericide.

Claim 21: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, comprising fragrance material at up to 4% by weight of the composition.

Claim 22: (Currently Amended) A method of controlling microbial numbers on the outer surface of the human body or on apparel worn in close proximity thereto, said method comprising the application to the outer surface of the human body or to apparel worn in close proximity thereto of an anti-microbial composition according to claim 1.

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Claim 23: (Currently Amended) A cosmetic method of inhibiting the generation of human body odour, said method comprising the application to the outer surface of the human body ~~or to apparel worn in close proximity thereto~~ of an anti-microbial composition according to claim 1.

Claim 24: (Currently Amended) A cosmetic method of delivering enhanced fragrance intensity comprising the topical application to the outer surface of the human body ~~or to apparel worn in close proximity thereto~~ of a composition according to claim 21.

Claim 25: (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22 in which, in a preceding step, the outer surface of the human body ~~or apparel worn in close proximity thereto~~ is washed and/or in a preceding or simultaneous step is contacted with an anti-microbial agent thereby lowering the viable microbial population.

Claim 26: (Previously Presented) A method for the manufacture of an anti-microbial composition, said method comprising the formation of a solution in an organic solvent of a transition metal chelator salt according to claim 1.

Claim 27: (Original) A method for the manufacture of an anti-microbial composition according to claim 26, comprising the addition of an acidic chelator and an amine to water to form an aqueous solution, followed by dilution with an alcohol to form an aqueous alcohol solution, optionally followed by pressurisation with a liquified volatile propellant.

Claim 28: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent comprises from 60% to 97% by weight of the total liquids present, excluding any liquified volatile propellant that may be present.

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Claim 29: (Previously Presented) An anti-microbial composition for use on the outer surface of the human body comprising a carrier material and a salt of a transition metal chelator comprising a solution in an organic solvent of a transition metal chelator anion and an organic cation, wherein the cation comprises a protonated or quaternised amine, other than triisopropanolamine, containing 0 to 3 hydroxyl groups per N-substituent and at least one N-substituent comprising a C₁-C₁₀ terminal hydrocarbyl group, wherein the cation of the chelator salt is protonated 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol, cyclohexylamine, diisopropanolamine, or 2-aminobutan-1-ol.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) An antimicrobial composition according to claim 1 wherein the cation of the chelator salt comprises a protonated or quaternised amine containing not more than 1 hydroxyl group per N-substituent and a least one N-substituent comprising at least one C₁-C₁₀ terminal hydrocarbyl group.